

## ABSTRACT

This invention relates to methods of using an optical disc reader to detect an analyte of interest that is associated with an optical disc assembly. The method includes the steps of: (1) providing the optical disc to the optical disc reader; (2) directing at least one beam of electromagnetic radiation to the optical disc and scanning the beam over the optical disc; (3) acquiring radiation returned from or transmitted through the optical disc using a detector of the optical disc reader; (4) generating from the acquired radiation at least a signal which is indicative of the presence of the analyte; and (5) generating from the acquired radiation signals which enable the optical disc reader to track operational structures impressed or encoded in the optical disc.